

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Figures 4 and 6 as originally filed with Replacement Figures 4 and 6, attached hereto.

Attachment: Replacement Figure 4 and 6 (2 sheets)

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 3, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Replacement Figures 4 and 6 are submitted to correct informalities. Claims 1 and 16 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. No new matter is added by the amendments, and support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, for example, on page 5, lines 22-24 and in Figures 3-4 and 8. No further consideration or search is needed. Thus, claims 1-16 are pending in the present application, with claims 4, 5, 9, 10 and 12-14 being withdrawn following an election of species requirement. Applicant respectfully requests that the application be reconsidered in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Figures

The drawings stand objected to because of an inconsistency between the bottom view of Figure 7 and the side view of Figure 4. The Office Action alleges that the bottom view of Figure 7 shows "the entire support piece disposed within the perimeter of the base of the bag." The Office Action also alleged that the side view of Figure 4, however, shows "the support piece extending beyond the perimeter so as to allow attachment of the leg." Applicant submits replacement Figure 4 to correct the inconsistencies noted in the Office Action. Thus, applicant submits that this objection is rendered moot.

Replacement Figure 6 is submitted to correct reference numeral 313.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, 15 and 16 Are Not Anticipated by Cheng

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,581,767 (Cheng). To anticipate, a reference must disclose each and every element of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the anticipation rejection, and submits that the cited reference of Cheng does not disclose or suggest all the features of any of the presently pending claims. Applicant notes that the Office Action does not include the patent number for Cheng in making the rejection. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner confirm that the above patent number is correct. If the above-referenced patent number is incorrect, then applicant respectfully requests that a new, non-final Office Action be issued correctly listing the rejection and the applicable reference.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-3, 6-8, 11 and 15 are dependent, recites a golf bag sustained with a leg means. The golf bag includes a bag body. The golf bag also includes a base mounted at the bottom of the bag body and having a flat surface portion. The golf bag also includes an anchored portion and an inclined plane portion. The golf bag also includes a support piece detachably mounted at the bottom of the base. The inclined portion plane includes a first recess portion to receive the support piece. The support piece includes a sheet and a pair of first fastening portion and second fastening portion formed at opposite ends of the sheet. The first fastening portion is assembled with the leg means. The second fastening portion is coupled to the anchored portion, so

as to support the golf bag up by means of the assembled leg means and support piece. An edge of the end of the sheet having the first fastening portion corresponds in position to a perimeter of a bottom of the base.

Claim 16 recites a golf bag. The golf bag includes leg means for supporting the golf bag. The golf bag also includes a base having a flat surface portion, an anchored portion, and an inclined portion. The golf bag also includes a support piece attached to the base detachably coupled to the leg means. The support piece is accommodated by a first recess portion in the inclined plane portion. The support piece includes a sheet. The support piece also includes a first fastening portion formed at one end of the sheet. The first fastening portion is to assemble with the leg means. The support piece also includes a second fastening portion formed on the sheet at an opposite end to the one end having said first fastening portion. The second fastening portion is to couple with the anchored portion. An edge of the one end of the sheet having the first fastening portion corresponds in position to a perimeter of the base.

Cheng relates to a golf bag base. Referring to Figures 3-11 of Cheng, the golf bag base includes a main body 20 for supporting golf bag 30 and an action plate 25 pivotably attached to main body 20. Action plate 25 is provided with two pivoting projections 251 opposite in location to each other. When pivoting projections 251 of action plate 25 are received in two pivoting holes 241 of receiving slot 24 of main body 20, retaining block 253 of action plate 25 is coupled to action rod 31 of golf bag 30 to support golf bag 30. At this position, Cheng describes the edge of action plate 25 being extended beyond the

perimeter of main body 20, as shown in Figure 8. Action plate 25 is provided with a retaining block 253, which is used to retain the bottom end of action rod 31. Referring to Figure 11 of Cheng, inclined underside 23 of main body 20 is provided with a recess 231, which is intended to accommodate retaining block 253 of action plate 25, within the perimeter of main body 20.

Applicant submits that Cheng fails to disclose or suggest all the features of any of the presently pending claims. For example, Cheng fails to disclose or suggest “wherein an edge of the end of the sheet having the first fastening portion corresponds in position to a perimeter of a bottom of the base,” as recited in claim 1. Claim 16 recites “wherein an edge of the one end of said sheet having said first fastening portion corresponds in position to a perimeter of said base.” Applicant respectfully submits, for the reasons given below, that Cheng fails to disclose or suggest at least these features of the claims.

As discussed above, Cheng describes the edge of action plate 25 extending beyond the perimeter of main body 20 to couple with action rod 31, as shown in Figure 8, or the edge of action plate 25 being within recess 231 and within the perimeter of main body 20, as shown in Figure 11. Cheng fails to disclose or suggest the edge of action plate 25 corresponding in position to the perimeter of main body 20. Further, Cheng fails to disclose or suggest the first fastening portion being assembled with the leg means, where the first fastening portion corresponds to the perimeter of the bottom of the base. Referring to Cheng, retaining block 253 is not positioned on the edge of action plate 25 to couple with action rod 31 at the perimeter of main body 20. Thus, Cheng fails to disclose

or suggest an edge of the end of the sheet having the first fastening portion corresponding in position to a perimeter of a bottom of the base. Therefore, applicant maintains that Cheng does not disclose or suggest at least these features of the pending claims.

The dependent claims also are not disclosed or suggested by Cheng because of their dependency on claim 1, and also because they recite additional patentable features. Thus, applicant submits that Cheng does not disclose or suggest all the features of claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, 15 and 16. Applicant respectfully requests that the anticipation rejection be withdrawn.

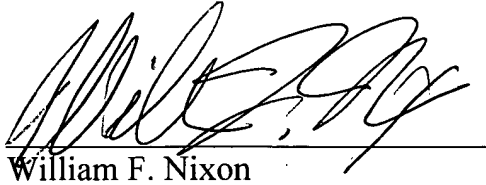
Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the claims in view of the above remarks and amendments. Applicant submits that all of claims 1-16 are allowable, and that this application be passed to issue. Because claim 1 is generic, withdrawn claims 4, 5, 9, 10 and 12-14 also are allowable.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William F. Nixon', written over a horizontal line.

William F. Nixon
Registration No. 44,262

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

WFN:cct

Enclosures: Replacement Figure 4 and 6 (2 sheets)